



Houston Department of Health and Human Services

Immediate emergency action for poisoning

Call 1-800-POISON-1 (1-800-764-7661)

- **Inhaled poison:** Immediately get the person to fresh air. Avoid breathing fumes. Open all doors and windows. If victim is not breathing, start CPR.
- **Poison on the skin:** Remove contaminated clothing and flood the skin with water for 10 minutes. Wash gently with soap and water and rinse.
- **Poison in the eye:** Flood the eye with lukewarm (not hot) water poured from a large glass held about 3 inches from the eye. Repeat for 15 minutes. Have the person blink as much as possible while flooding the eye. Do not force the eyelid open.
- **Swallowed poison:** Medicines, do not give anything by mouth until you have called for professional advice.
- **Chemicals or household products:** Unless the person is unconscious, having convulsions or cannot swallow, give a glass of water immediately. Call for professional advice about whether the person should vomit. Have the label ready when you call.
- **Syrup of ipecac:** Always keep a 1-ounce bottle of syrup of ipecac on hand for each child in the house. Use only on advice of the poison control center, emergency medical service or physician.

For more information: <http://www.utmb.edu/setpc/>